



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP **12¢**



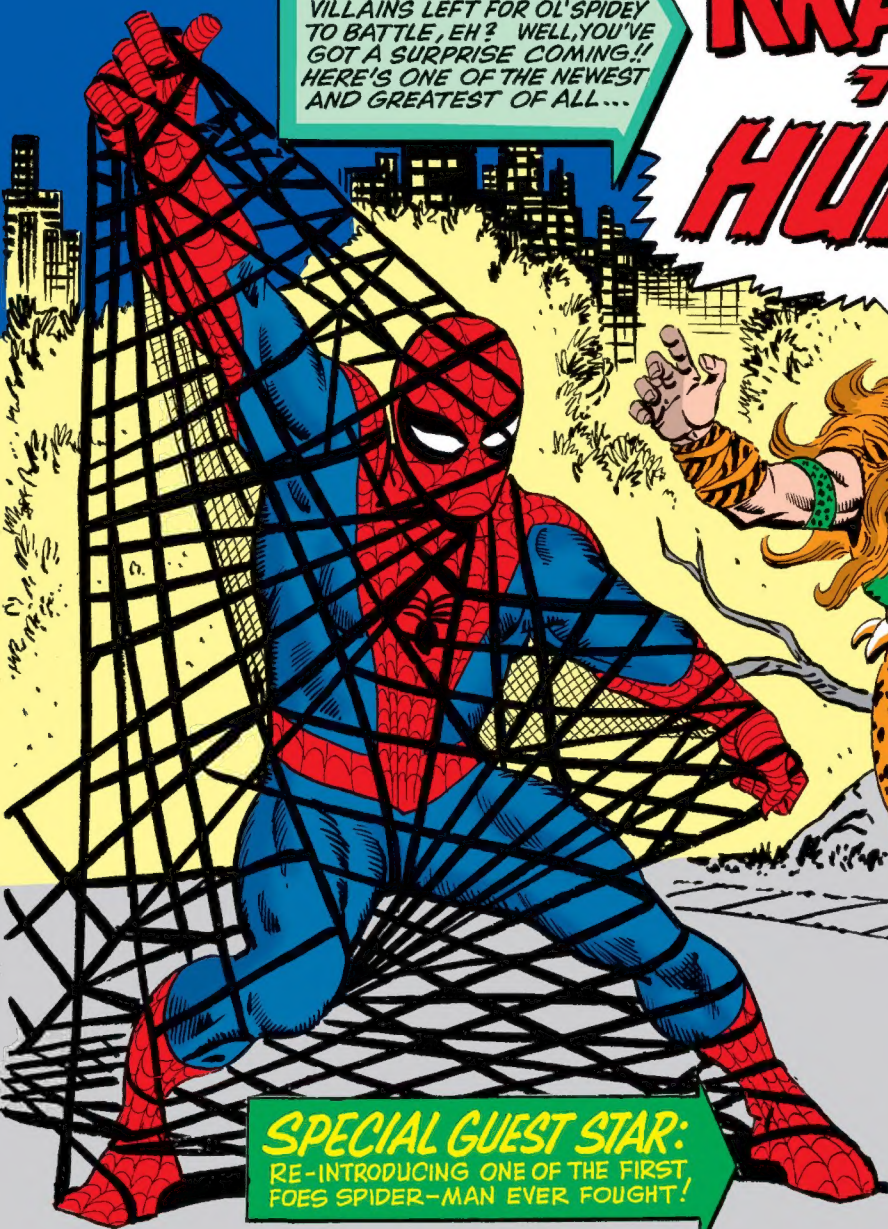
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

IND.

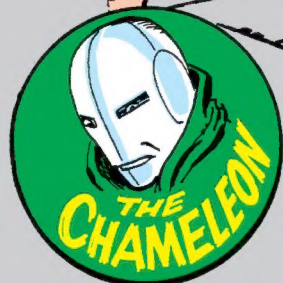
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AUG.

SO YOU THINK THERE ARE
NO NEW TYPES OF SUPER-
VILLAINS LEFT FOR OL' SPIDEY
TO BATTLE, EH? WELL, YOU'VE
GOT A SURPRISE COMING!!
HERE'S ONE OF THE NEWEST
AND GREATEST OF ALL...

KRAVEN, THE HUNTER!



SPECIAL GUEST STAR:
RE-INTRODUCING ONE OF THE FIRST
FOES SPIDER-MAN EVER FOUGHT!





KRAVEN THE HUNTER!

OKAY,
GROUP...THE
PARTY'S OVER!
IN CASE YOU
HAVEN'T HEARD,
THERE'S A LITTLE
OL' LAW AGAINST
ORGANIZING
BANK ROBBERY
GANGS IN THIS
TOWN!

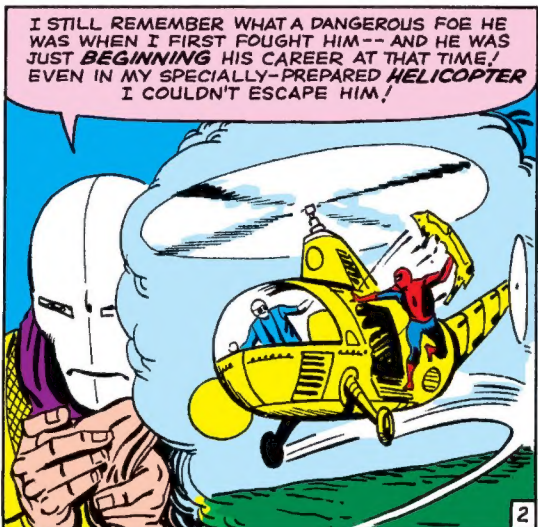
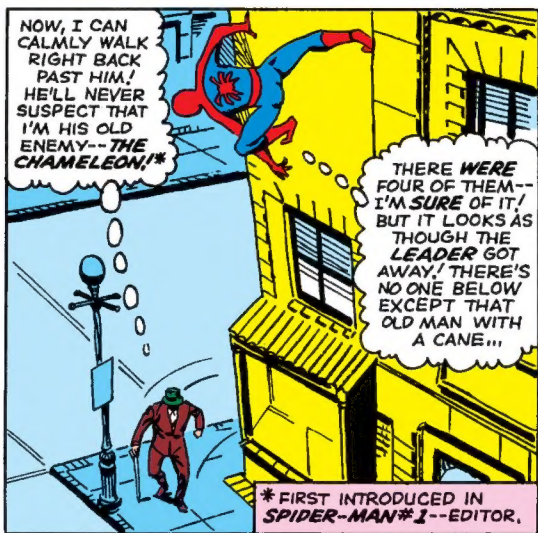
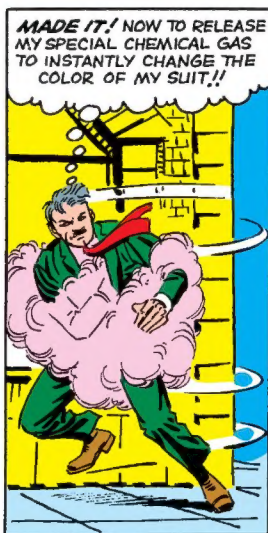
WE'RE
TRAPPED! IT'S
SPIDER-MAN!
HE MUST HAVE
BEEN SHADOWING
US OUT THERE--
LISTENING TO
OUR PLANS!

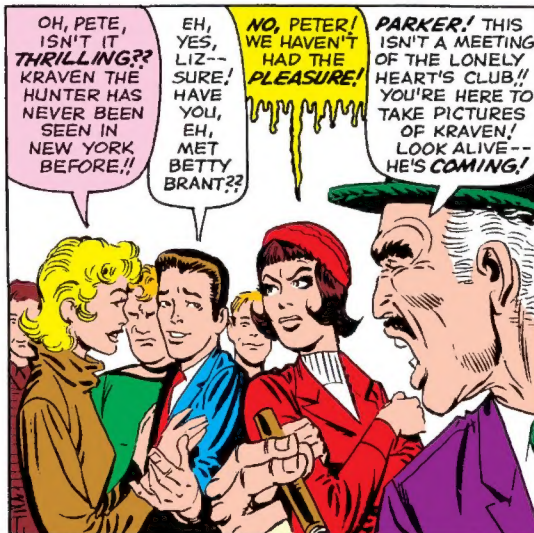
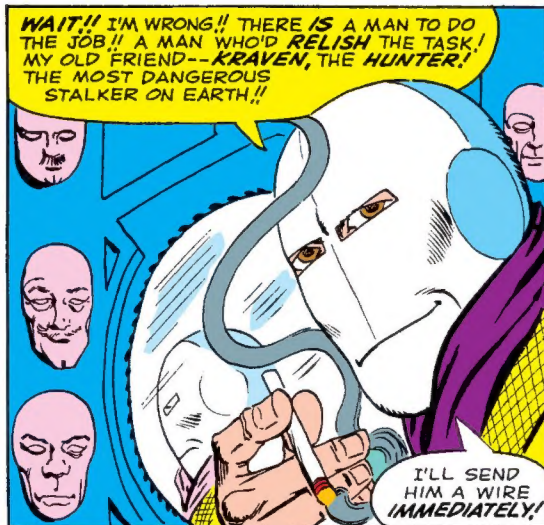
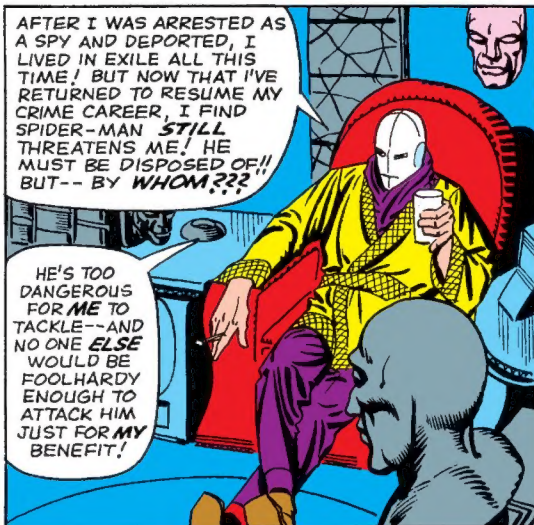
FOR ANY OF YOU
WHO MAY HAVE BEEN
LIVING IN ANOTHER
GALAXY FOR THE PAST
TWO YEARS, WE'LL EXPLAIN
THAT THIS IS CERTAINLY
AND THIS IS CERTAINLY
THE MOST EXCITING SPIDEY
THE ADVENTURE WE'VE EVER
PRESENTED! (SINCE THE
LAST ONE!) IT'S GOT
VILLAINS, HEROES, ACTION,
A MISH-MASH OF EVERY-
THING--AND IT'S TOLD IN
THE MARVEL MANNER!
'NUFF SAID!

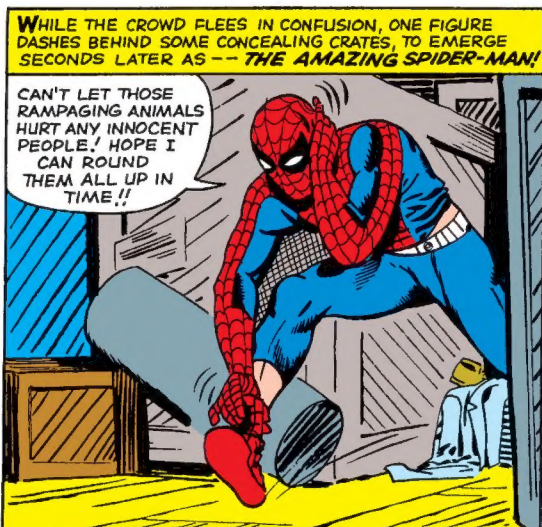
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STAN LEE
(BECAUSE WE COULDN'T)
AFFORD MICKEY SPILLANE)

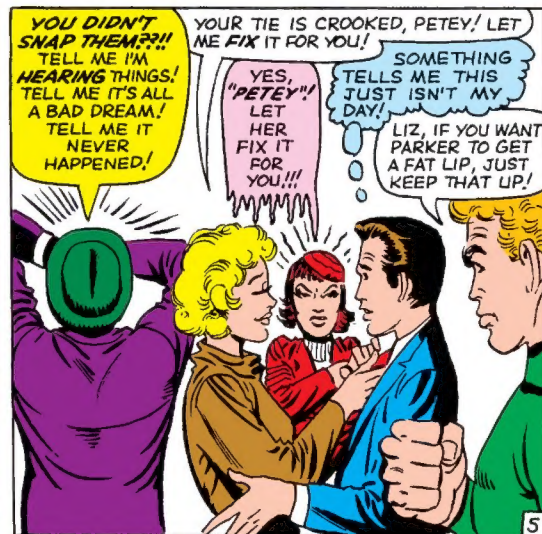
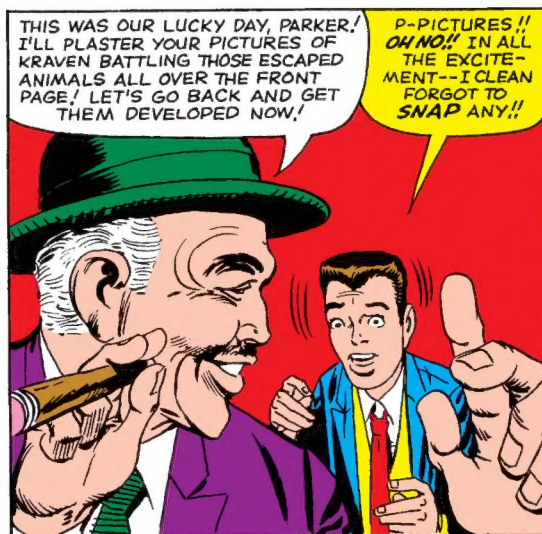
ILLUSTRATED BY:
STEVE DITKO
(BECAUSE PICASSO WAS)
OUT OF TOWN

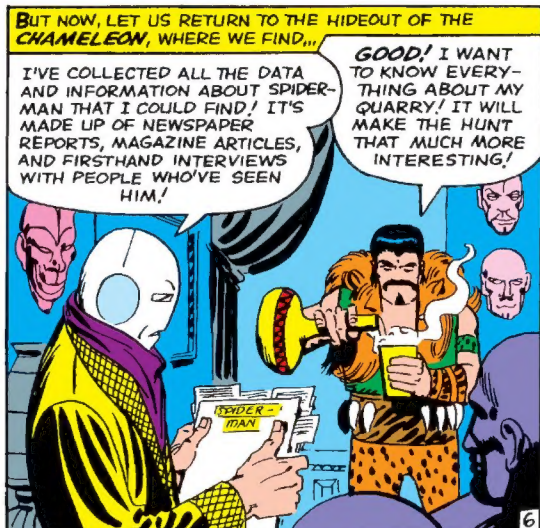
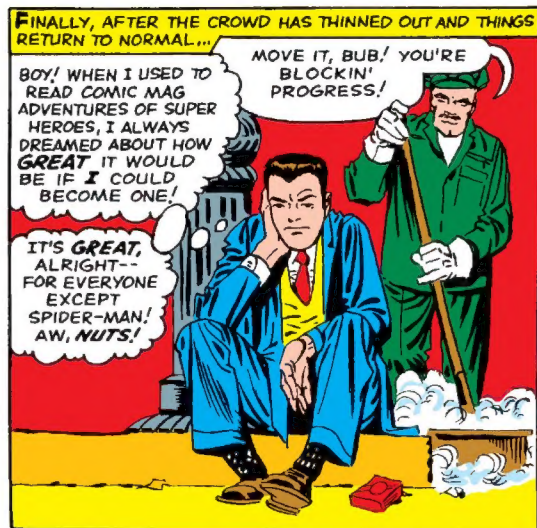
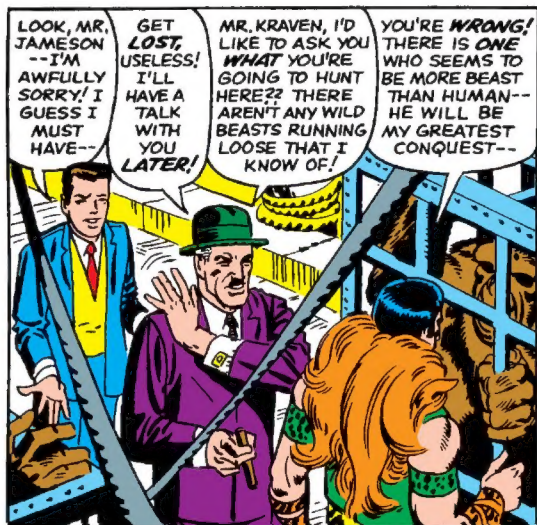
LETTERED BY:
ART SIMEK
(BECAUSE HIS NAME
FITS THIS SPACE)

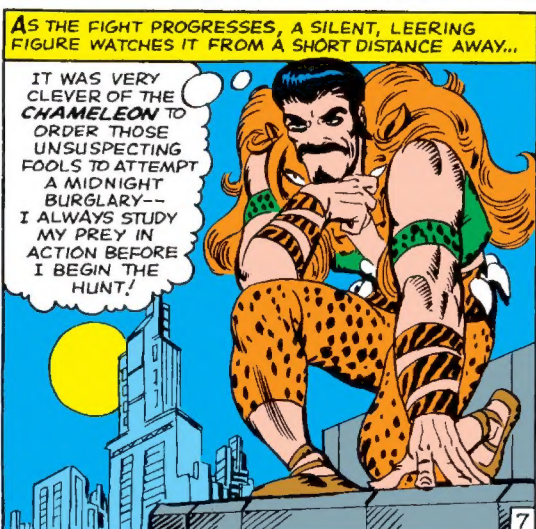
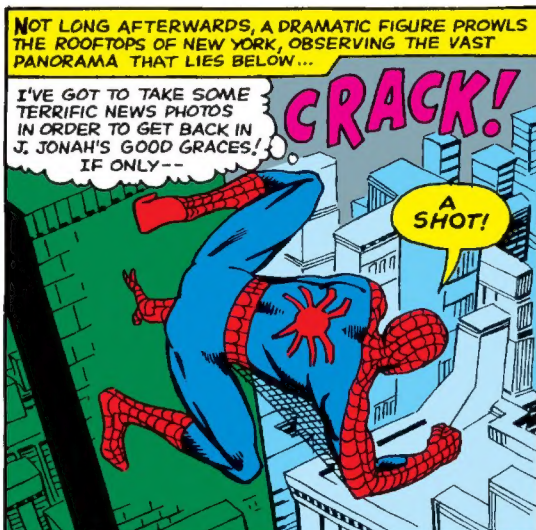














I NEED HAVE NO FEAR-- HE **WILL** BE A WORTHY FOE! HE HAS SPEED-- SKILL-- AND DARING!



HE'S **CORNERED!** C'MON--**RUSH HIM!**

NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO FINISH HIM OFF!

LOOK OUT! HE'S STARTIN' TO FLIP HIMSELF UP OVER US!!



HOW DOES HE **DO** IT?? HE'S STANDIN' ON THE SIDE OF THE WALL!! CAN'T **REACH** 'IM!!

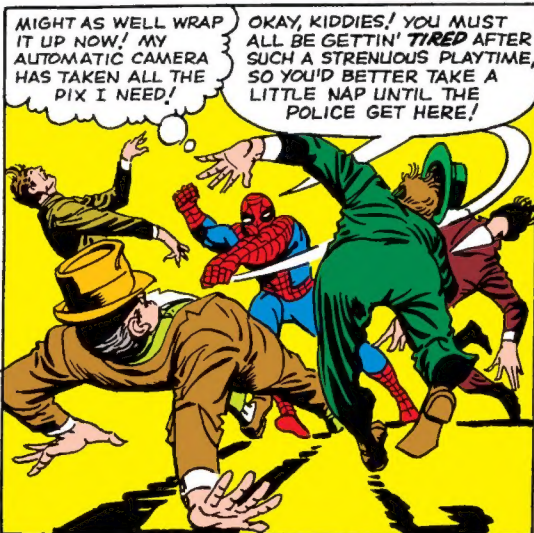
BUT, FROM MY LITTLE VANTAGE POINT UP HERE, I CAN REACH **YOU**-- SEE WHAT I MEAN??



NOW **LOOK!** AFTER ALL MY TROUBLE, DO YOU THINK I'M GONNA LET YOU RUN AWAY SO EASILY??

QUICK! WE'LL DUCK AROUND THIS CEMENT BLOCK, AND--

HEY!! HOW'D HE GET OVER **HERE???**



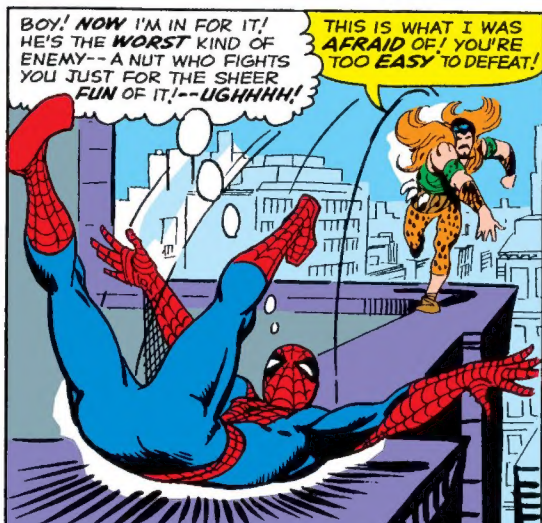
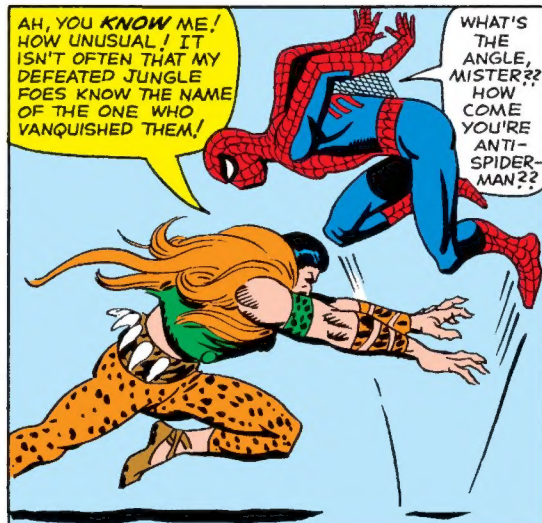
MIGHT AS WELL WRAP IT UP NOW! MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA HAS TAKEN ALL THE PIX I NEED!

OKAY, KIDDIES! YOU MUST ALL BE GETTIN' **TIRED** AFTER SUCH A STRENUOUS PLAYTIME, SO YOU'D BETTER TAKE A LITTLE NAP UNTIL THE POLICE GET HERE!



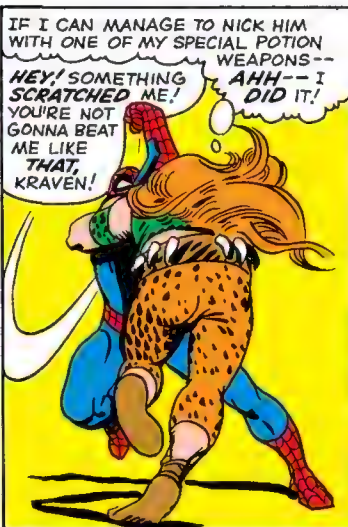
NOW **THAT** WAS A PLEASANT WAY TO SPEND A FEW IDLE MINUTES!

IT'S ABOUT TIME **SOMETHING** I DID TURNED OUT RIGHT! I WAS BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE A WALKING **JINX!**

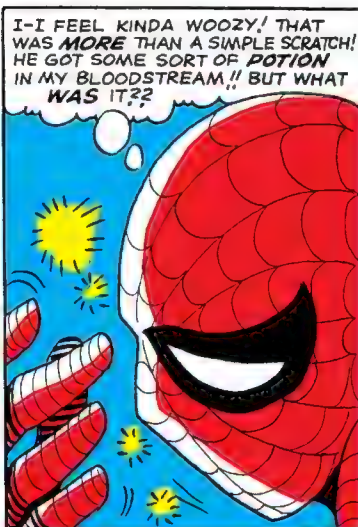




HE'S STRONGER THAN I **THOUGHT!** EVEN WITH **ONE** HAND HE'S BEATING ME! I CAN'T DEFEAT HIM FAIRLY, BUT--

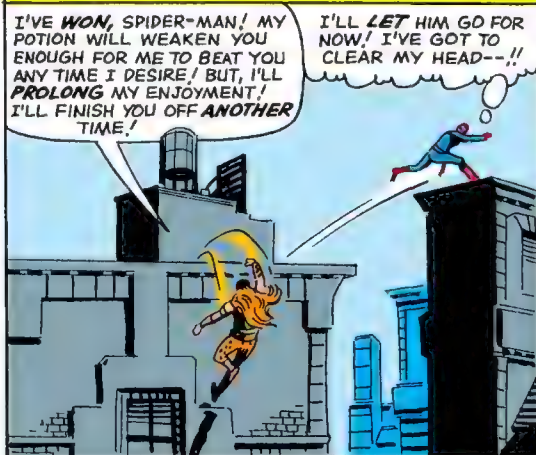


IF I CAN MANAGE TO NICK HIM WITH ONE OF MY SPECIAL POTION WEAPONS--
HEY! SOMETHING **SCRATCHED** ME!
YOU'RE NOT GONNA BEAT ME LIKE **THAT**, KRAVEN!



I-I FEEL KINDA WOOLZY! THAT WAS **MORE** THAN A SIMPLE SCRATCH! HE GOT SOME SORT OF **POTION** IN MY BLOODSTREAM!! BUT WHAT WAS IT??

THEN, AS SPIDER-MAN RELEASES HIS SAVAGE FOE FOR AN INSTANT, KRAVEN RACES AWAY, WITH A TRIUMPHANT CRY RINGING FROM HIS SNEERING LIPS...



I'VE **WON**, SPIDER-MAN! MY POTION WILL WEAKEN YOU ENOUGH FOR ME TO BEAT YOU ANY TIME I DESIRE! BUT, I'LL **PROLONG** MY ENJOYMENT! I'LL FINISH YOU OFF **ANOTHER** TIME!

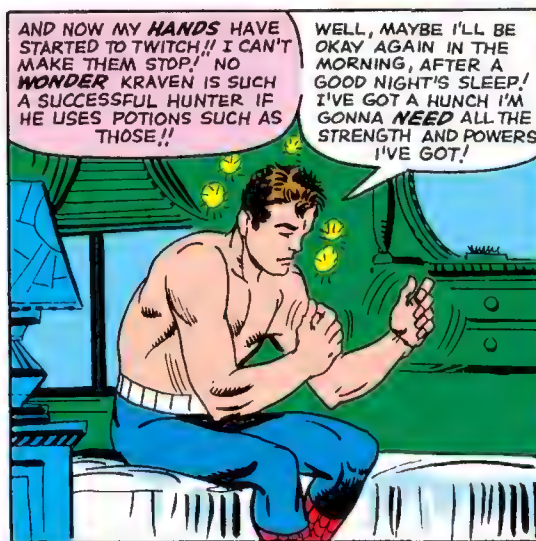
I'LL **LET** HIM GO FOR NOW! I'VE GOT TO CLEAR MY HEAD--!!



I'M GETTING DIZZIER BY THE MINUTE! I'LL JUST GRAB MY CAMERA FROM WHERE I LEFT IT, AND TRY TO MAKE IT HOME!



FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES, THE AMAZING TEEN-AGER SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY HUGS THE ROOF-TOPS ON HIS JOURNEY HOME, AND THEN FINALLY...
--WHEW!-- MY **SHOULDER** IS GETTING BACK TO NORMAL NOW, BUT I CAN'T LOSE THIS DIZZINESS!



AND NOW MY **HANDS** HAVE STARTED TO TWITCH!! I CAN'T MAKE THEM STOP! NO **WONDER** KRAVEN IS SUCH A SUCCESSFUL HUNTER IF HE USES POTIONS SUCH AS THOSE!!

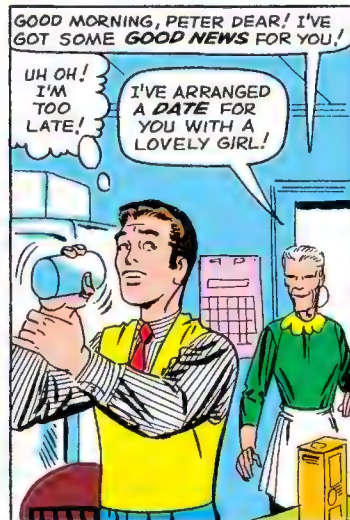
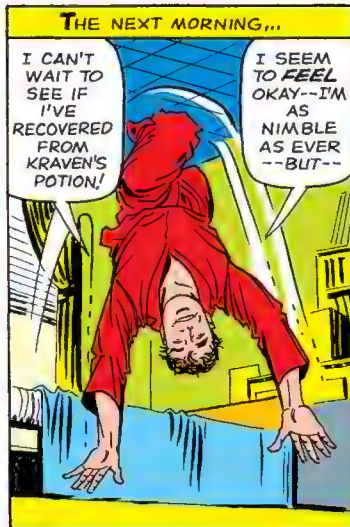
WELL, MAYBE I'LL BE OKAY AGAIN IN THE MORNING, AFTER A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP! I'VE GOT A HUNCH I'M GONNA **NEED** ALL THE STRENGTH AND POWERS I'VE GOT!



AND, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN...

OF **COURSE** I AM! HE'S THE KIND OF FOE I'VE ALWAYS **WANTED** --ONE TO TEST MY METTLE TO ITS FULLEST! WHAT A **TRIUMPH** THIS WILL BE FOR ME! HOW **SWEET** WILL BE THE FRUITS OF MY VICTORY!

I DON'T **GET** IT, KRAVEN! YOU SAY HE'S FAR STRONGER, FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN YOU THOUGHT--AND YET YOU'RE **HAPPY** ABOUT IT!





WHY, HEL-LO, PETEY-WETEY! HERE, LET ME FIX YOUR LITTLE TIEZY-WIEZY, PETEY!

AWW, CUT IT OUT, BETTY! YOU KNOW THAT I HATE BEING CALLED "PETEY"!!



REALLY, MISTER PARKER?? I DIDN'T NOTICE YOU TELLING THAT EMPTY-HEADED BLONDE SCHOOL-GIRL NOT TO CALL YOU PETEY!!

OF COURSE I DIDN'T TELL HER! WHAT DO I CARE WHAT SHE CALLS ME?? SHE DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING TO ME!



BOY! FEMALES MUST HAVE ORIGINALLY BEEN INTENDED FOR ANOTHER PLANET!! I THINK-- HEY!! WHAT'S HE DOING HERE??!

YOU HAVE MY WORD, JAMESON! SPIDER-MAN'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED!

KRAVEN! WITH JAMESON! WHAT DOES IT MEAN??



REMEMBER-- IT HAS TO BE PERFECTLY LEGAL! MUCH AS I HATE SPIDER-MAN, I WON'T STAND FOR ANYTHING THAT VIOLATES THE LAW!

WATCH YOUR TONE OF VOICE, JAMESON! YOU'RE TALKING TO KRAVEN THE HUNTER! NOBODY DICTATES TO ME!

WHAT COULD THEY HAVE BEEN COOKING UP?? AND WHY DOES KRAVEN LOOK SO CONFIDENT?? AS THOUGH HE HAS A FOOL-PROOF SCHEME OF SOME SORT!!



AFTER KRAVEN DEPARTS, A TROUBLED PETER PARKER HANDS J. JONAH JAMESON PRINTS OF THE CRIME PHOTOS HE HAD TAKEN THE DAY BEFORE, AND THEN...

THESE PIX AREN'T BAD, PARKER-- BUT WHO CARES ABOUT PUNKS LIKE THESE? I WANT PICTURES OF SPIDER-MAN IN ACTION-- OR OF KRAVEN-- GET ME??

SURE! I'LL GET THEM FOR YOU! I'VE GOT TO GET PHOTOS OF MY NEXT BATTLE WITH KRAVEN-- IF I MANAGE TO LIVE THRU IT! PETER--?

HE SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT ME! WHAT CAN BE WRONG?



LATER, IN HIS SCIENCE CLASS AT SCHOOL...

I DON'T GET IT! WHAT MAKES KRAVEN SO CONFIDENT THAT HE CAN BEAT ME?? THE SUSPENSE IS GETTING ON MY NERVES!



THEN, SUDDENLY...

OH NO!! MY HANDS STARTED SHAKING AGAIN!! I COULDN'T EVEN HOLD THAT TEST TUBE!

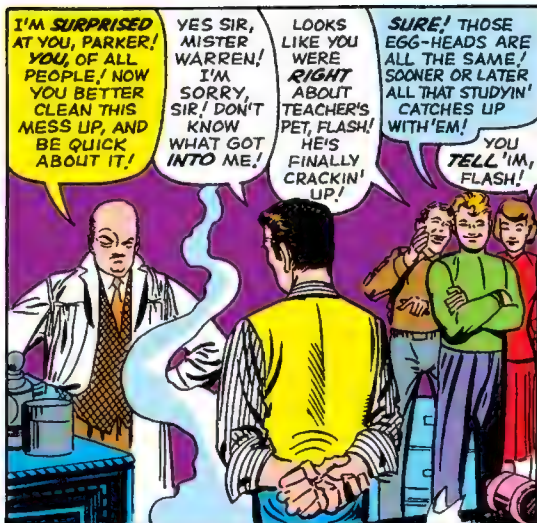
HEY! WHAT'S WITH PUNY PARKER??



I NEVER SAW PETER PARKER THAT WAY BEFORE! HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S ALL THUMBS!

THIS IS AWFUL! CAN'T HOLD ON TO A THING!

FOR GOODNESS SAKE! HOW CLUMSY CAN YOU BE??!



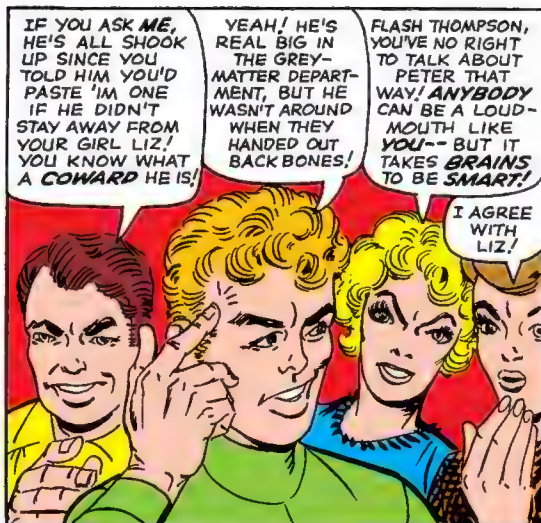
I'M **SURPRISED** AT YOU, PARKER! YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, NOW YOU BETTER CLEAN THIS MESS UP, AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT!

YES SIR, MISTER WARREN! I'M SORRY, SIR! DON'T KNOW WHAT GOT INTO ME!

LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE **RIGHT** ABOUT TEACHER'S PET, FLASH! HE'S FINALLY CRACKIN' UP!

SURE! THOSE EGG-HEADS ARE ALL THE SAME! SOONER OR LATER ALL THAT STUDYIN' CATCHES UP WITH 'EM!

YOU TELL 'IM, FLASH!

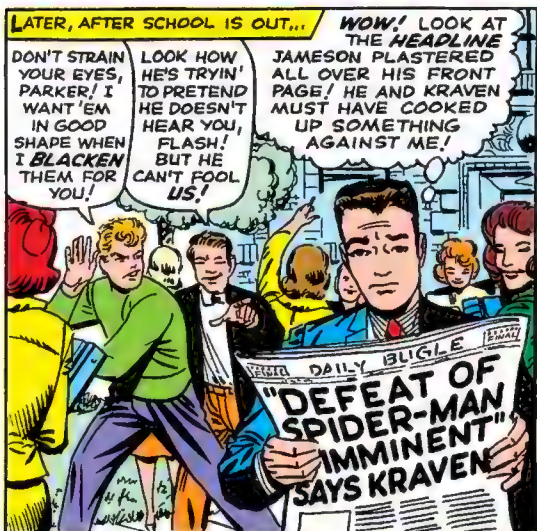


IF YOU ASK ME, HE'S ALL SHOOK UP SINCE YOU TOLD HIM YOU'D PASTE 'IM ONE IF HE DIDN'T STAY AWAY FROM YOUR GIRL LIZ! YOU KNOW WHAT A **COWARD** HE IS!

YEAH! HE'S REAL BIG IN THE GREY-MATTER DEPARTMENT, BUT HE WASN'T AROUND WHEN THEY HANDED OUT BACK BONES!

FLASH THOMPSON, YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO TALK ABOUT PETER THAT WAY! **ANYBODY** CAN BE A LOUD-MOUTH LIKE YOU-- BUT IT TAKES **BRAINS** TO BE **SMART**!

I AGREE WITH LIZ!

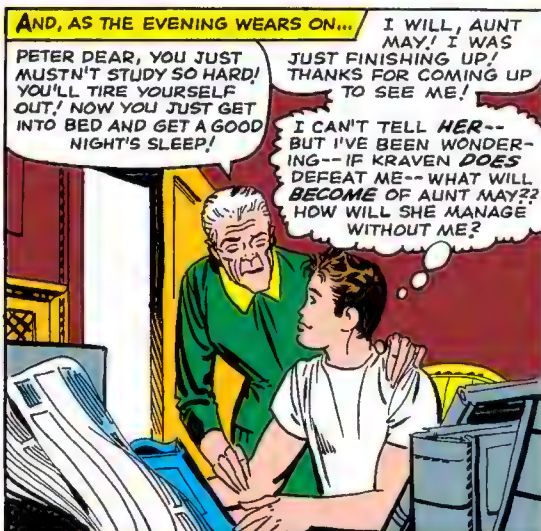


LATER, AFTER SCHOOL IS OUT...

DON'T STRAIN YOUR EYES, PARKER! I WANT 'EM IN GOOD SHAPE WHEN I **BLACKEN** THEM FOR YOU!

LOOK HOW HE'S TRYIN' TO PRETEND HE DOESN'T HEAR YOU, FLASH! BUT HE CAN'T FOOL **US**!

WOW! LOOK AT THE **HEADLINE** JAMESON PLASTERED ALL OVER HIS FRONT PAGE! HE AND KRAVEN MUST HAVE COOKED UP SOMETHING AGAINST ME!



AND, AS THE EVENING WEARS ON...

PETER DEAR, YOU JUST MUSTN'T STUDY SO HARD! YOU'LL TIRE YOURSELF OUT! NOW YOU JUST GET INTO BED AND GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP!

I WILL, AUNT MAY! I WAS JUST FINISHING UP! THANKS FOR COMING UP TO SEE ME!

I CAN'T TELL HER-- BUT I'VE BEEN WONDERING-- IF KRAVEN **DOES** DEFEAT ME-- WHAT WILL **BECOME** OF AUNT MAY?? HOW WILL SHE MANAGE WITHOUT ME?



BUT, NO SOONER DOES HIS DOTING AUNT LEAVE THE ROOM, THEN THE BRILLIANT TEEN-AGER GETS AN IDEA...

I'VE GOT IT! I'LL FIND A WAY TO PUT MY **SPIDER-TRACER*** ON KRAVEN! THEN I'LL ALWAYS KNOW JUST WHERE HE IS-- IF HE'S ABOUT TO ATTACK ME!



BUT, AFTER CHANGING TO **SPIDER-MAN**, THE AMAZING ADVENTURER LEARNS THAT HIS PLAN WILL NOT BE SO EASY TO CARRY OUT...

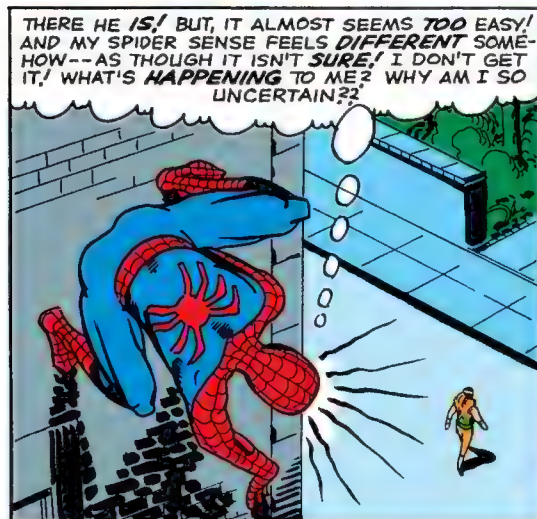
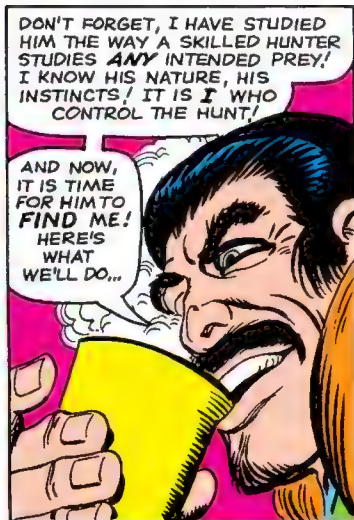
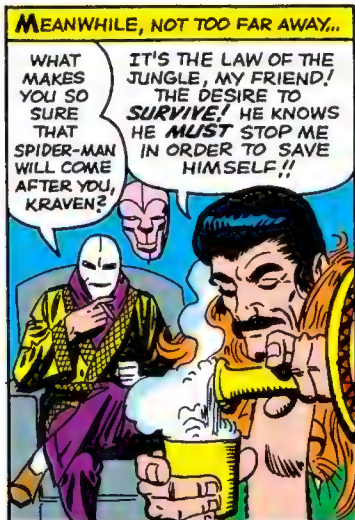
DARN THESE SHAKING HANDS OF MINE!! I CAN'T KEEP STEADY ENOUGH TO USE MY WEB ACCURATELY!

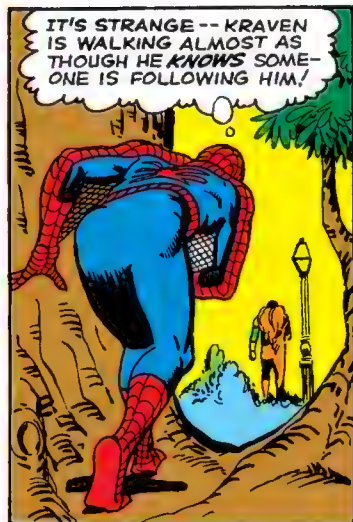


THE ONLY THING TO DO IS **LEAP** FROM BUILDING TO BUILDING!

GOOD THING MY **SPIDER** AGILITY IS STILL AS GOOD AS EVER!

*SPIDER-TRACER FIRST USED IN SPIDER-MAN#11--EDITOR.





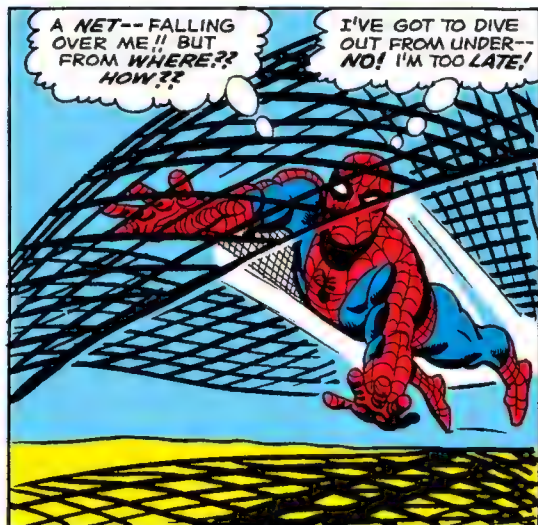
IT'S STRANGE--KRAVEN IS WALKING ALMOST AS THOUGH HE *KNOWS* SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING HIM!



I DON'T *LIKE* IT! EVERYTHING IS TOO QUIET--TOO CALM! AND MY SPIDER-SENSE IS WARNING ME--BUT, OF *WHAT*??



HE'S STARTING TO GET SUSPICIOUS NOW! BUT IT'S TOO *LATE*! THE TRAP IS *SPRUNG*!

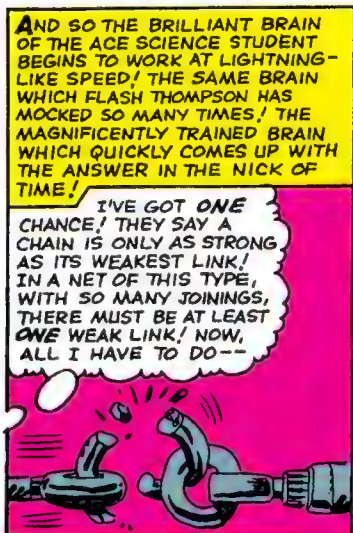


A *NET*--FALLING OVER ME!! BUT FROM *WHERE*?? *HOW*??

I'VE GOT TO DIVE OUT FROM UNDER--*NO!* I'M TOO *LATE*!

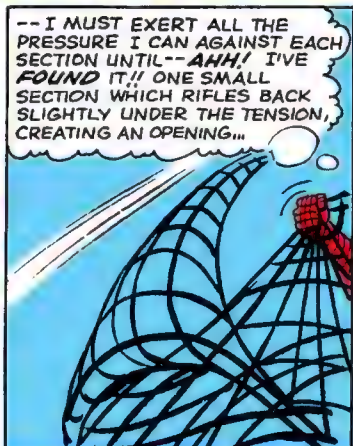


WHAT CAN IT BE *MADE* OF?? EVEN WITH MY SPIDER STRENGTH, I CAN'T RIP IT! BUT, I MUSTN'T PANIC! THERE'S *ALWAYS* A WAY OUT! I HAVE TO THINK--THINK--



AND SO THE BRILLIANT BRAIN OF THE ACE SCIENCE STUDENT BEGINS TO WORK AT LIGHTNING-LIKE SPEED! THE SAME BRAIN WHICH FLASH THOMPSON HAS MOCKED SO MANY TIMES! THE MAGNIFICENTLY TRAINED BRAIN WHICH QUICKLY COMES UP WITH THE ANSWER IN THE NICK OF TIME!

I'VE GOT *ONE* CHANCE! THEY SAY A CHAIN IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK! IN A NET OF THIS TYPE, WITH SO MANY JOININGS, THERE MUST BE AT LEAST *ONE* WEAK LINK! NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO--



--I MUST EXERT ALL THE PRESSURE I CAN AGAINST EACH SECTION UNTIL--*AAH!* I'VE *FOUND* IT!! ONE SMALL SECTION WHICH RIFLES BACK SLIGHTLY UNDER THE TENSION, CREATING AN OPENING...



NOW, BY EXERTING MAXIMUM PRESSURE AT THAT VERY SPOT, I CAN MAKE THE OPENING LARGE ENOUGH FOR ME TO ROLL OUT OF!!

NOTE: THE SEQUENCE YOU HAVE JUST WITNESSED TOOK PLACE IN ITS ENTIRETY WITHIN THE INCREDIBLY SHORT SPACE OF THREE AND ONE HALF SECONDS, DUE TO SPIDER-MAN'S COMBINED POWERS OF QUICK-THINKING AND RAPID ACTION!

BUT, JUST AS SPIDER-MAN MAKES A DASH FOR FREEDOM, THE BEATING OF A JUNGLE DRUM DISTRACTS HIM -- CONFUSES HIM FOR A SPLIT-SECOND--MAKING HIM UNCERTAIN WHICH WAY TO RUN!

BOOM!
THUD!



THOSE DRUMBEATS!! SO LOUD-- SO PENETRATING! GOING RIGHT INTO MY BRAIN! AN OLD JUNGLE TRICK TO CONFUSE THE ENEMY!

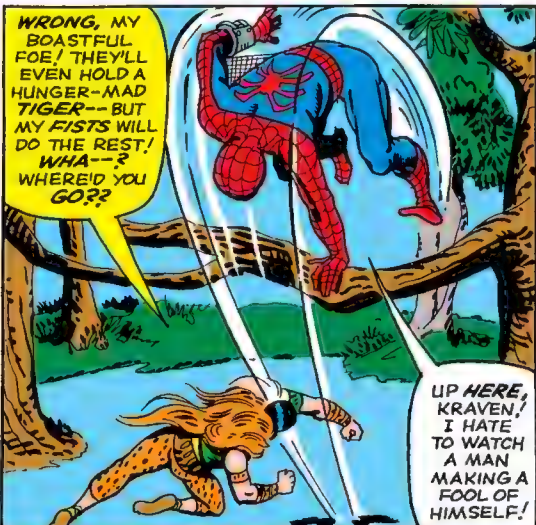
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF SPIDER-MAN'S BRIEF PAUSE, KRAVEN ATTACKS WITH THE SPEED OF A SAVAGE PANTHER!

HAH! THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME OF ALL--AND I, KRAVEN, HAVE CAUGHT YOU!

DON'T KID YOURSELF, MISTER! THOSE METAL CHARM BRACELETS WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD SPIDER-MAN!



WRONG, MY BOASTFUL FOE! THEY'LL EVEN HOLD A HUNGER-MAD TIGER-- BUT MY FISTS WILL DO THE REST! WHA--? WHERE'D YOU GO??



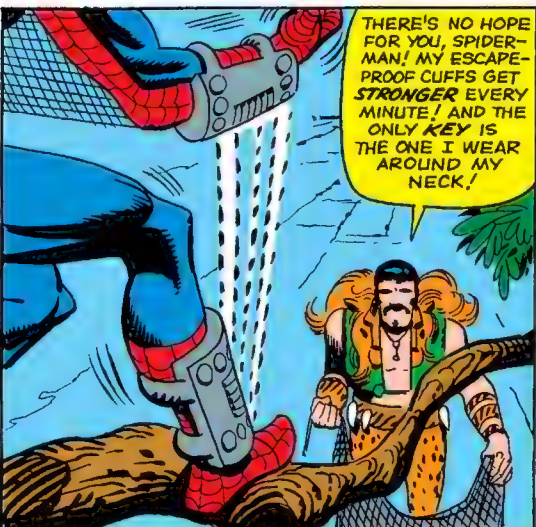
UP HERE, KRAVEN! I HATE TO WATCH A MAN MAKING A FOOL OF HIMSELF!

SAY!! THESE ARE MORE THAN JUST IRON MANACLES!! THEY HAVE SOME SORT OF MAGNETIC ATTRACTION!! THEY'RE TRYING TO PULL MY WRIST AND ANKLE TOGETHER! THEY'RE GETTING STRONGER ALL THE TIME!

AND THEY HAVE A SMALL BUILT-IN BELL THAT JINGLES WHEN I MOVE! OL' KRAVEN DOESN'T MISS A TRICK!



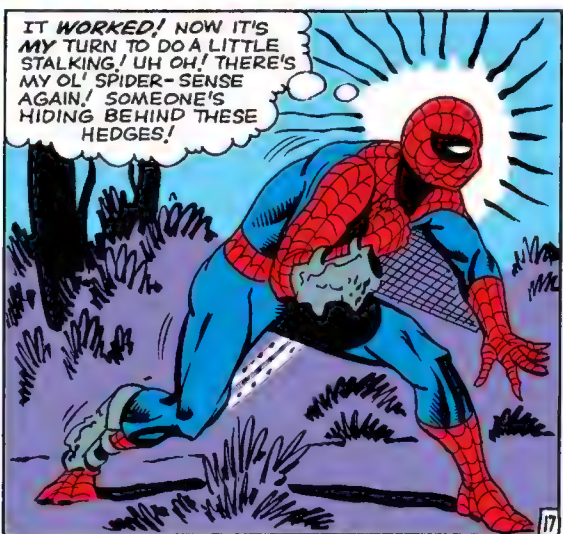
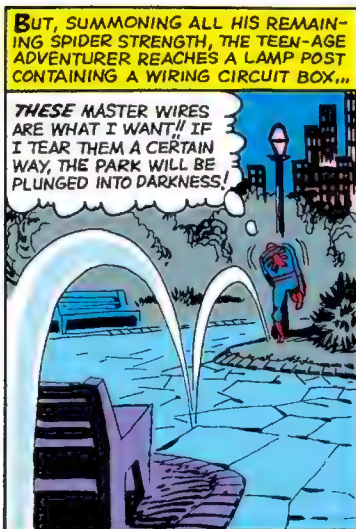
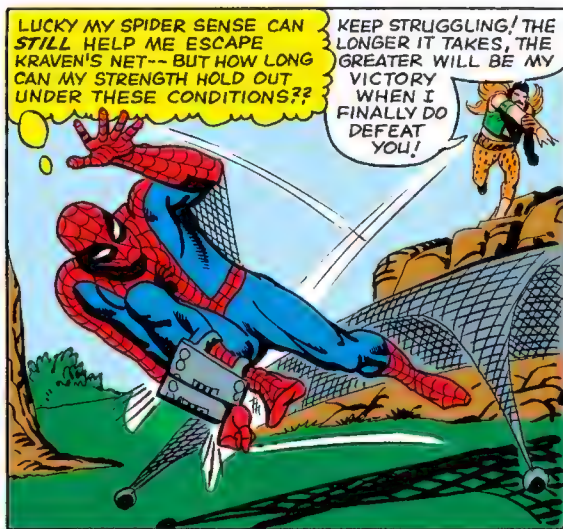
THERE'S NO HOPE FOR YOU, SPIDER-MAN! MY ESCAPE-PROOF CUFFS GET STRONGER EVERY MINUTE! AND THE ONLY KEY IS THE ONE I WEAR AROUND MY NECK!

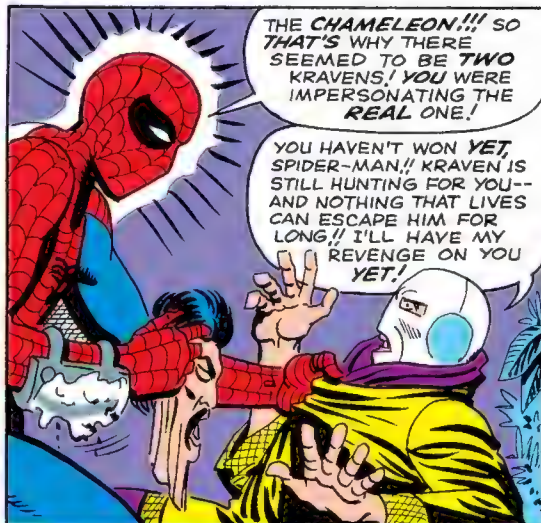


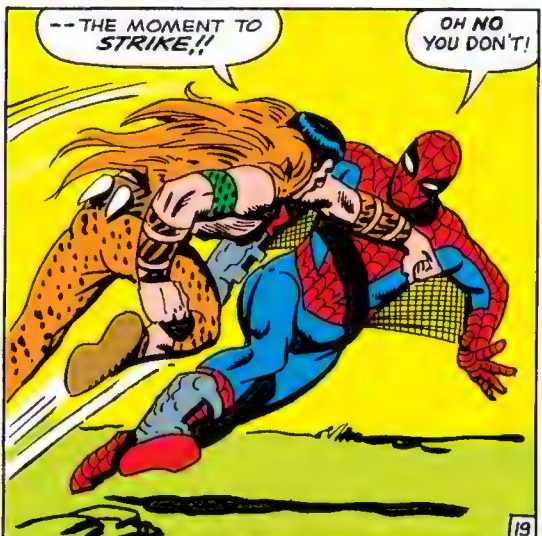
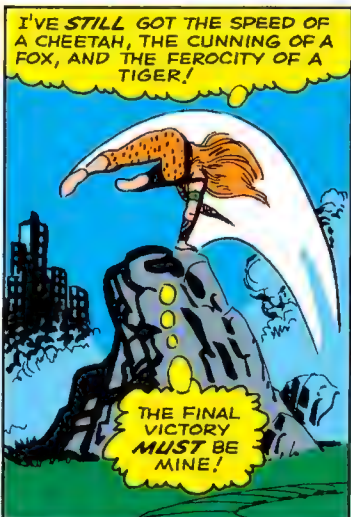
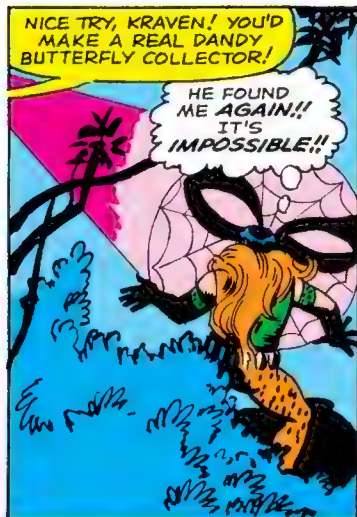
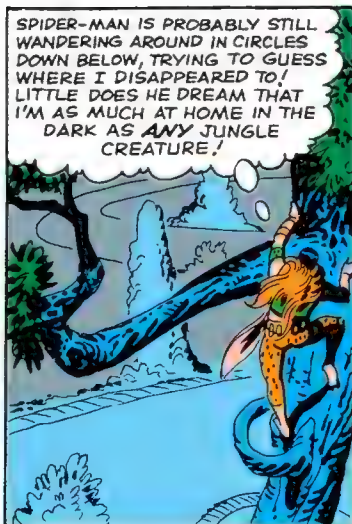
AHH-- SO YOU WANT TO RUN A LITTLE LONGER, EH? GOOD! THIS IS THE TYPE OF SPORT I ENJOY THE MOST!

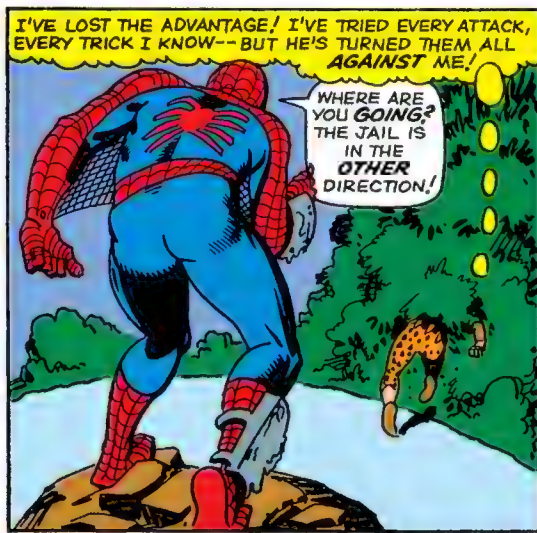
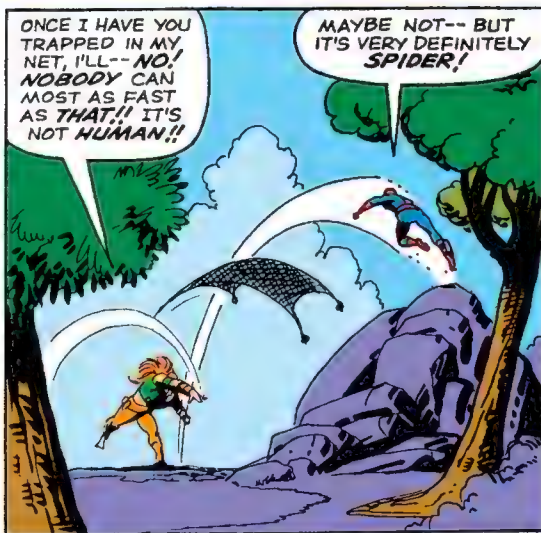
IT MAY BE SPORT TO HIM, BUT I'VE GOT TO FIGURE A WAY TO GET THESE UNCANNY HANDCUFFS OFF ME BEFORE THEY COMPLETELY DRAIN ALL MY STRENGTH!

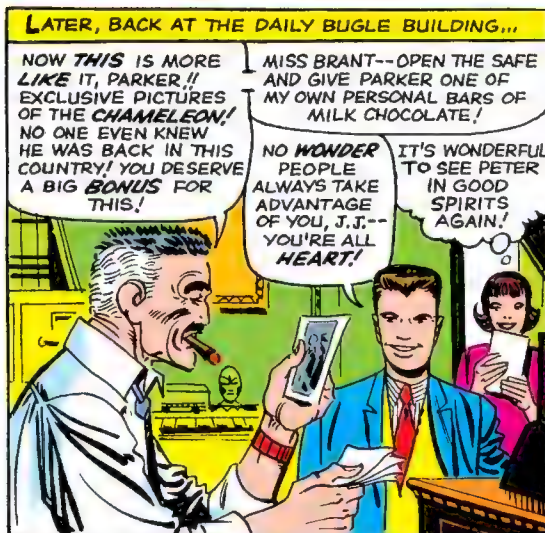
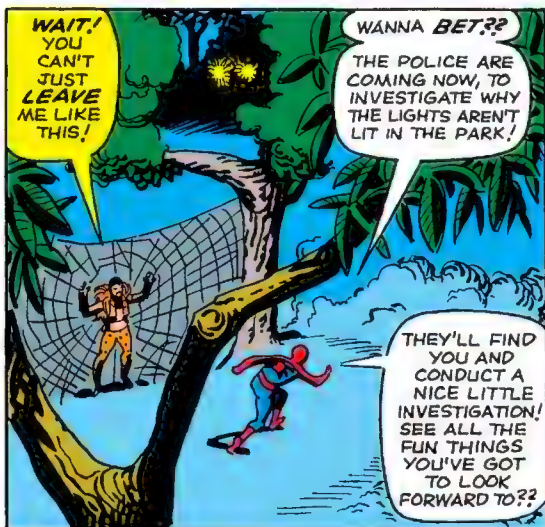
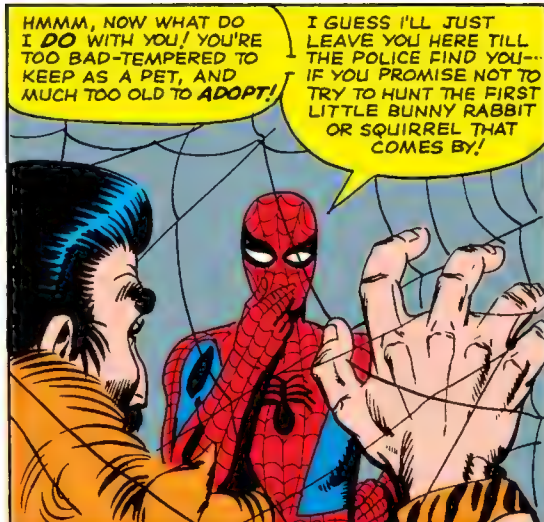












I UNDERSTAND, PETER! I SHOULD HAVE **KNOWN** A GIRL CAN ALWAYS TRUST HER FIRST IMPRESSIONS!!

JUST MY LUCK! SHE THINKS I'M COLD-SHOULDERING **HER** BECAUSE I HAVE A DATE WITH **LIZ!** POOR BETTY-- IF ONLY I COULD EXPLAIN...

WHY AM I ALWAYS IN THE **MIDDLE??** I CAN'T EVER BRING MYSELF TO SAY "NO" TO AUNT MAY, SO I END UP HURTING THE GIRL I CARE FOR! **PHOOEY!**

AND THAT WATSON GAL IS PROBABLY A REFUGEE FROM A HORROR MOVIE! IF ONLY I DIDN'T HAVE TO SEE HER TONIGHT!!

PETER DEAR, I'VE BEEN **WAITING** FOR YOU! I'M AFRAID I HAVE BAD NEWS...

I'M BE-GINNING TO THINK THERE'S NO **OTHER** KIND!

MRS. WATSON'S NIECE HAS A HEADACHE-- SHE CAN'T SEE YOU TONIGHT! I HOPE YOU'RE NOT TOO DISAPPOINTED, DEAR!

GOSH, AUNT MAY-- IT **IS** A SHOCK!! BUT, I'LL BE BIG ABOUT IT!

HELLO, BETTY? THIS IS PETE! YOU **KNOW** WHICH PETE! AW, BETTY-- DON'T BE THAT WAY! **WAIT--** DON'T HANG UP--! **BETTY!**

OKAY!! IF **THAT'S** THE WAY SHE WANTS TO ACT, I'LL CALL **LIZ ALLEN!**

BUT, SIXTY SECONDS LATER...

YES SIRREE! THAT'S **SOME** BIG CRUSH SHE HAS ON ME! HER MOM SAYS SHE'S OUT DANCING WITH FLASH THOMPSON!

BOY! WITH MY LUCK, I SOMETIMES WONDER WHO'S STICKING PINS IN A PETER PARKER DOLL?

NOT LONG AFTERWARDS, A STEAMER PREPARES TO HEAD FOR SOUTH AMERICA...

YOU'RE BOTH GETTING OFF MIGHTY EASY BY MERELY BEING **DEPORTED** FROM THIS COUNTRY! JUST MAKE SURE YOU DON'T COME BACK!

ARE YOU GOING TO LET THEM **DO** THIS TO US, KRAVEN?

OF **COURSE!** I'LL GET BACK IN SHAPE HUNTING IN THE JUNGLES OF THE CONGO-- AND THEN, WHEN I'M MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER--

-- WE SHALL **RETURN**, AND CONTINUE OUR HUNT FOR SPIDER-MAN!! A HUNT WHICH WILL NEVER END UNTIL HE IS DESTROYED!

MAYBE A TRIP HERE TO THE DOCKS WILL HELP ME FORGET ABOUT BETTY FOR A WHILE! GEE, I'D LIKE TO BE ON THAT SHIP RIGHT NOW! IT LOOKS SO QUIET-- SO PEACEFUL! BUT I'M JUST NOT THAT LUCKY!

THE END

ON SALE NEXT: SPIDER-MAN#16, AND... THE GREAT, NEW SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL! ALL YOU LOYAL WEB-SPINNERS HAVE SOME GREAT TREATS IN STORE! DON'T MISS 'EM!



SPIDER'S WEB

Please address
your letters to:
THE SPIDER'S WEB
Third Floor
655 Madison Ave.
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Stan and Steve,

In your latest issue of Fantastic Four you have a letter from someone who did a book report on that comic book in school. I thought you might be interested in seeing the impact that Spider-Man has had on higher education. My friends and I have decided that Spider-Man is far ahead of any other super-hero in the field. In an article published in the school newspaper, I tried to sum up the reasons why. Everyone who has read Spider-Man identifies with him, and if Peter Parker ever wants to go to college we'll try to get him a scholarship here—and a fraternity bid, too. We'll be reading your comic books as long as you put them out!

John Butterworth, COLGATE MAROON

Colgate University, Hamilton, N. Y.

John sent us a clipping of the article he mentions from the Colgate U. school newspaper. It's clever as all get-out. It's entitled "Spider-Man Strives For Status In Competitive Comic Book World Of Insecure Super-heroes." Wish we had room to reprint it here. Thanks a heap, J.B.

Dear Stan and Steve,

Lots of kids whose dads are stationed here in Greece buy your "classy" mags (as many people call them). I also find great enjoyment reading SPIDER-MAN. At the Air Base the comics cost 12¢ as usual but people that can't buy things on the base have to pay 7 drachma elsewhere, which is about 20¢! So you'd better think up some super-doopers, Stan, and you'd better start your flashy drawing, Steve, because I don't give 20¢ to a super-mag for nothing! Ricky Cocorelis, 30 Prigipos Konstantinou

Palio Psycio, Athens, Greece

Thanks, Rick! And after we read your letter a few more times, perhaps we'll be able to figure out if it's a knock or a boost!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Gosharootie! Issue #11 of SPIDER-MAN just hit the stands. I was delighted that this episode took place in Pennsylvania (I live in that state, you know!). The script was stupendous and the artwork was colossal. Spider-Man was fantastic and Dock Ock was marvelous. I flipped over the fight scenes, especially the part where Peter meets two of the mobsters (page 15—panel 5) and contemptuously bashes them aside like troublesome insects—boy, he must lift weights! I am mildly disappointed over the fact that Betty Brant, and not Liz Allen, is Spider-Man's girlfriend—don't you fellows know that gentlemen prefer blondes and that Peter should have chosen Liz instead of Betty? Naturally, I was shocked over the death of Bennett Brant; however, you didn't make the customary mistake which you usually include to see if we readers are on our toes—what happened??? John F. Lebar, 305 N. Jordan

Allentown, Pa.

A fine thing! We even get yelled at when we DON'T make mistakes! Actually, Johnny, we probably make as many as ever, but you fans are getting so brain-washed you don't notice 'em as much!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Well, you did it again! I just finished reading SPIDER-MAN #11—the plot was great and Ditko's art is better than ever. You fellas at Marvel have a very unique fashion of writing and drawing your mag that has made me a fan

for life! Spider-Man, next to F.F., is the most exciting and wonderful magazine yet. But don't team him up with anyone except maybe Daredevil. I think it would ruin the color and excitement which is Spider-Man. This is my first, but not last, letter and I could praise you all day, but I'm sure you hear a lot of it anyway!

Dennis Willits, 900 Ave. B, Valley View
Great Falls, Montana.

Praise is like vitamins, Denny ol' boy—we never get enough! Thanks for the kind words.

Dear Stan and Steve,

When I first saw Spider-Man in the Strange Tales Annual I said to myself, "Oh, here we go again with another silly super-hero." Then I got hold of him in his own mag. Then I saw another and another and so on—and wow! This super-hero is really good! I really like the way he moves around, and uses his power and abilities. I also like the idea of his being a bookworm, amateur scientist, and a photographer for J.J.J. (who I think gives extra flavor to the mag). In general, I really love this comic. It's practically the only one I read besides a few others in your group. But this is my one and only grief—can we or can we not get subscriptions? Every night since the Enforcers came out I have gone downtown for the next issue. Please answer. (If yes, save first subscription for me!)

Richard Kent, 6 Charles St.
Seldon, N. Y.

Why, bless your extravagant little heart, Dickie boy! Of COURSE you may buy a subscription to ANY Marvel mag! We're turning your letter over to our subscription department immediately! (SOME department! One overworked gal with a squeaky addressing machine! Take a bow, nice Nancy Murphy!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

Before I start, let me say that I'm on your side entirely. In issue #11 Joseph Shea wrote that he didn't like SPIDER-MAN #8. Well, I think it was great, and the art and plot lived up to their name of being a Marvel because they were. He also said that he didn't like continuous stories or Tales of Asgard. Well, I think they're both great and both deserve medals for being the outstanding features of the Marvel Group of the year. He also said (are you listening, Joe?) that he could read the continued stories in the funnies for free—I suggest he does. If he doesn't like Spider-Man, then why does he read them? Listen Joe, if you write another letter like the last one, you'll get a nasty letter from my Congressman. Remember, I'm still carrying a "Torch" for you. Nick Blackwell, Route #2

Kennesaw, Ga.

Don't be mad at Joe, Nick. He's really one of our best fans. As for our continued stories, we'll be using less and less of them—mainly because we keep forgetting where we left off the issue before!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I have been looking for a letter in the Spider's Web which would take inventory on all the Spider-Man stories, but I haven't seen one yet so I've decided to write one. When Spider-Man appeared in "Amazing Adult Fantasy" the whole conception of Spider-Man was really what made the story which lacked in art somewhat. When compared to the more recent stories this one was quite poor, but when compared to others of that time, this was a pleasant

CONTINUED

radical change of pace which introduced new concepts to the comic world. I might add that I think this story was the turning point of the Marvel idea and ushered in the Marvel Age of Comics. Thanks for the good job and the enjoyment you have brought me through Spider-Man.

Ken Dixon, 674 Buttonwood Drive
Springfield, Pa.

Ken also included a detailed critique on each ish of SPIDER-MAN since it started! However, we'll save that for some future time when colleges offer courses on "Spider-Mania"!

Dear Stan and Steve,

Allow me to introduce myself—I am Spider-Man's costume. Sure he's a great guy, but that crawling around on floors and ceilings is wearing out my knees. Oh-h-h—that sickening, gooey web-fluid he shoots out all the time makes me look messy. But one thing is the utmost end—that was when Spider-Man fought Electro and actually touched him. I don't think I've fully recovered yet. I'm still shaking! After putting me through all this, you'd think I'd be well paid. Well, you're wrong! All I get is dry-cleaning expenses. I think I deserve a little more than this. After all, he would look kind of drab without a costume. Well, at least there's one good thing about being Spider-Man's costume—I get to take part in all his dandy adventures... and that's something I wouldn't trade with any other costume.

Peter Bieger, 305 Hampshire Dr.
DeWitt 14, N. Y.

Very cute, Pete—but now we'll probably have to grant equal time to Daredevil's costume—not to mention the Human Torch and Ice-Man!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I never did consider Dr. Octopus as a good villain, so when I saw the cover of SPIDER-MAN #11 I was disappointed. My anger was soon dispelled while reading the story, for it surpassed my expectations by leaps and bounds. What made the story so effective was the use of subplots and minor details such as linking Betty Brant in Dr. Octopus' plans, the fact that Betty turned against Spider-Man, and the electrified spider. I was really shocked by the death of Betty's brother. What other magazine would have the nerve to do this? But then, it's this type of unpredictable action that makes Marvel so famous! As for Steve's art—well, I could rave on and on but he knows how great he is! The best picture of Betty was the third last panel—it didn't look like Ditko's usual work, but I'm not complaining. You have the uncanny knack of producing the most touching, stirring conclusions to your stories. Much as I hate to say it, for Pete's sake (that was unintentional, honest!), I like this type of ending. It's really effective in a sentimental sort of way. A thought just struck me—what with Peter's problems of being an outcast of society, harassed continuously by J. J. Jameson, and his mixed-up love affairs, he'd make a wonderful soap opera! You could call it "The Heart of Peter Parker!" or "The Perplexing Problems of Peter Parker and his Pickled Peppers!". Maybe you could give him his own "Doctor" show and he could do appendectomies on spiders!

Bob Malisani, 1338 Dupont St.
Toronto 4, Ont., Canada

And can't you just picture him guest-starring on "What's My Line?"



Dear Stan and Steve,

Unlike so many others, I don't try to find things wrong with your mag. I hand over my 12¢, find a chair, and sit down to enjoy one of the greatest Marvel mags ever published. Steve's art is the greatest and ditto for Stan with his stories. Personally, I think you've got something with the Avengers and the X-Men!

Gary Polk, 1521 Highway 80
Weatherford, Texas

Sure we have, Gary! Impossible deadlines, THAT'S what we've got!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

—Okay, we've read all YOUR letters, now the least you can do is read what WE have to say! And as usual, we've got PLENTY to say! So let's go!

—Judging by the mail we've received so far for our new superhero, DAREDEVIL, he's the greatest thing since frozen custard! You've probably read DAREDEVIL #2 by now, featuring Spidey's old arch-enemy, Electro! Wasn't Joe Orlando's art as great as we promised? And just wait till #3 goes on sale! It features The Owl, Overlord of Crime! Our mags may be from hunger, but how about those TITLES?!!

—Well, let's see what's doing with our other Marvel mags which are now on sale...

—The FANTASTIC FOUR has a real kookie yarn for you this month! It's entitled "It Started On Yancy Street," and it's really a different type tale. It has four former arch-foes of the F.F. battling them at once, plus a great guest star who has already won a series for himself. Drawn as usual by Jack (King) Kirby, it's inked by Chic Stone who seems to have become everybody's favorite almost overnight!

—Just when you think there are no new ideas left, THE AVENGERS have come up with a new team of villains called "The Masters of Evil"! Three of them are old friendly foes of yours, but the fourth is a newbie! You'll like this one!

—As for the X-MEN, we don't know how Stan and Jack do it! Not only do they feature Magneto and his Evil Mutants, co-starring Quicksilver and The Scarlet Witch, but they've built the story around comicdom's greatest roving guest star—the sensational Sub-Mariner! You've got to read this one to believe it!

—Do you know who Carl Burgos is? He's an old pal of Stan's who drew the Human Torch years ago in the Golden Age of Comics. Well, we talked him into doing a Torch story for us in the current ish of STRANGE TALES, just for old times sake! You'll really enjoy seeing Carl's great artwork after all these years. And, although he's busy with advertising art these days, we're trying to talk him into doing additional stories for us. Perhaps a few letters from you would help—!

—Villains! Villains! Villains! Have we got villains for you! The new IRON MAN has another Don Heck goodie called The Unicorn! There's a lot of human interest in this one—and Pepper was never prettier. But don't take OUR word for it!

—And, as if Giant-Man isn't big enough, the new ish of TALES TO ASTONISH has him battling a big bad villain named Colossus who's TWICE as big as handsome Hank! You'll see Captain America in this one, too—but only for a couple of panels. However, you'll be pleasantly surprised at how well darlin' Dick Ayers drew Cap!

—THOR really finishes off Mr. Hyde and The Cobra in this month's ish, and there's not a dull panel anywhere! We originally introduced Thor just for the few fans who enjoy imaginative, heroic drama on the grand scale, but your response has been overwhelming! Thor has actually become one of our top heroes! If you haven't been following his adventures, get the new ish and see what you've been missing!

—We're running out of room, so all we can say about the latest SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS is—it's loaded with surprises! Entitled "The Death Ray of Dr. Zemo," it introduces a brand new Howler; a villain who is ALSO seen in THE AVENGERS #6 (YOU figure out how!); and the exciting art work of Dick Ayers (while Jack works frantically on the F.F. Annual). Sounds terrific?? IT IS!

—And now, the big news! The SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #1 goes on sale in June! It features Spidey battling The Sinister Six (and just guess who THEY are!) and has more doggone feature pages and Spider-Man surprises than you'd dare to hope for! Be sure to reserve your copy at your newsdealers NOW! And of course our regular SPIDER-MAN mag also goes on sale in June, so you Spidey fans have it made! So, till we meet again (real SOON, hear?) remember: Be gentle to spiders—one of them may be Petey's nephew!



Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE